

RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

- A. **Proposed Action:** Western proposes to conduct to conduct install guy wire anchors at Structures 94/6 and 94/7 on the Parker Gila 161-kV Transmission Line. This work entails using a backhoe to dig out and disconnect existing anchors as well as excavating and burying new anchors. Crew trucks, graders, front-end loaders, and backhoes may be used. Existing access roads will be used to bring equipment and personnel to the work area. We plan to begin work on December 14, 2009 and complete work by February 7, 2010.

The project area occurs near the south end of the Middle Mountains, northeast of Yuma, Yuma County, Arizona. The attached map shows the project area situated within portions of Section 26 in Township 5 South, Range 20 West on the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian (Figure 1). Western's right-of-way crosses U.S. Army's Yuma Proving Grounds. The corresponding U.S.G.S. 7.5-minute topographic map is Middle Mountains South, Arizona.

- B. **Categorical Exclusion Applied:** 10 CFR, Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, B1.3: "Routine maintenance activities and custodial services for buildings, structures, rights-of-ways, infrastructures (e.g., pathways, roads, and railroads), vehicle and equipment, and localized vegetation and pest control, during which operation may be suspended and resumed... Routine maintenance activities, corrective (that is repair), preventive, and predicted, are required to maintain and preserve buildings, structures, infrastructures, and equipment in a condition suitable for a facility to be used for its designated purpose. Routine maintenance may result in replacement to the extent that replacement is in kind and is not a substantial upgrade or improvement..."

C. **Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410 (b):**

1. The proposed action fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to Subpart D.
 - a. The proposed action was reviewed for the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Historic Preservation Act, and all applicable Department of Energy Orders.
 - b. The proposed action does not require the siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities.
 - c. The proposed action does not disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled and unpermitted releases.

- d. The proposed action was reviewed and surveyed for impacts to cultural and sensitive biological resources. Cultural and sensitive biological resources have been determined to not be affected.
2. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
3. The proposal is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

D. Determination: Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

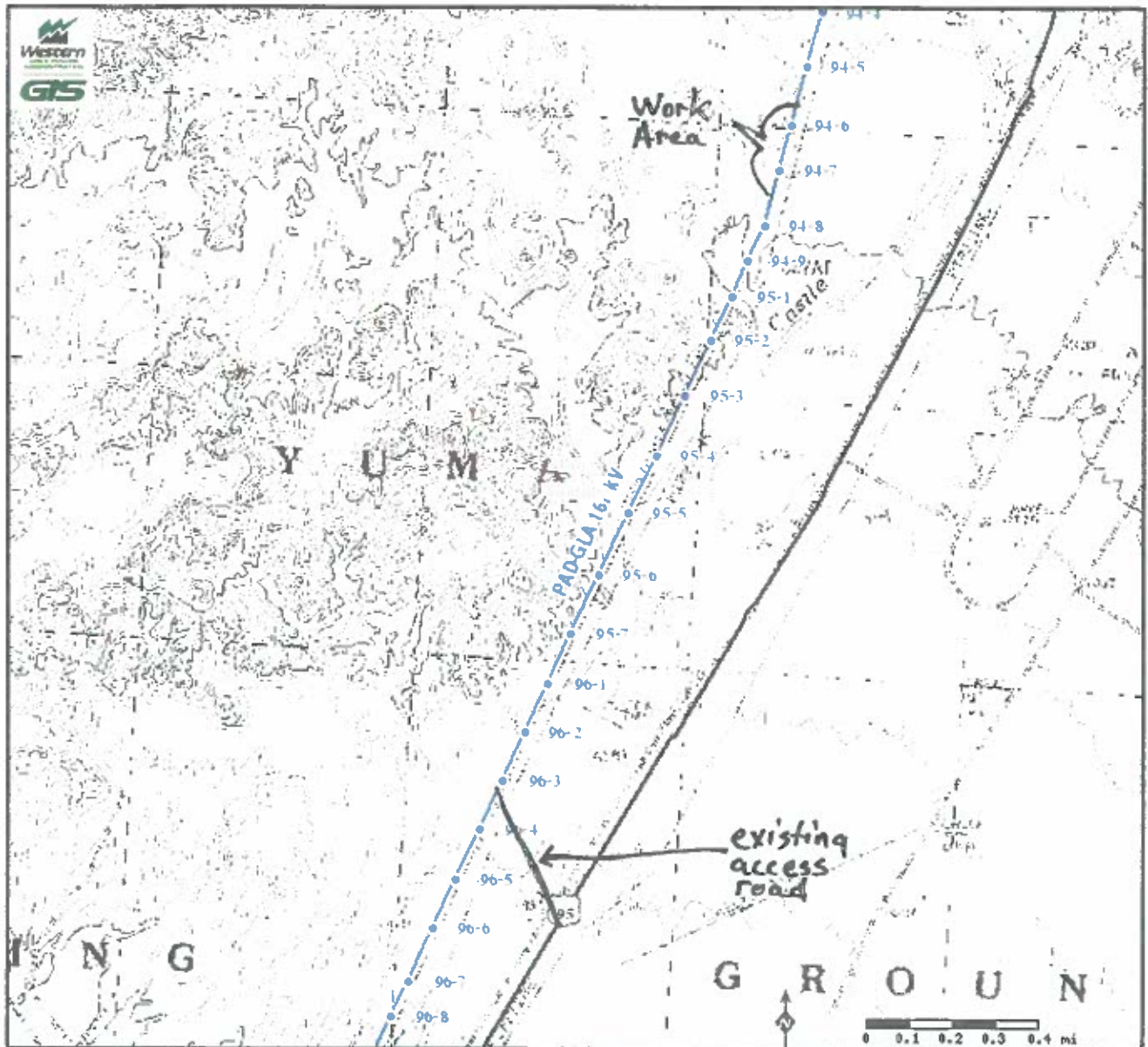
E. Special Conditions:

- 1) Between Structures 96/3 and 96/5, confine activities to the existing access road prism.


For John R. Holt
NEPA Compliance Officer

12/10/2009
Date

Desert Southwest Region



Legend

Map Parameters
UTM ZONE 12, NAD83
Scale 1:24,000

minx: 188262 maxx: 192872
miny: 3648651 maxy: 3652011

12/10/2009 1:18 P.M.

Western Area Power Administration
An agency of the U.S. Department of Energy



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